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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hugh R. Sharkey et al. Art Unit : 3739
Serial No. : 09/884,859 Examiner : Kenneth G. Schopfer
Filed : June 18, 2001
Title : METHOD OF TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISC TISSUE EMPLOYING
ATTACHMENT MECHANISM (As amended)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

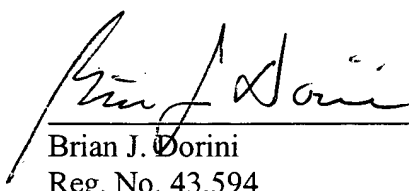
PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136, applicant hereby petitions that the period for response to the action dated September 12, 2002, be extended for three months to and including March 12, 2003.

Enclosed is a check for \$930 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: MARCH 12, 2003


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